

## **NEWS RELEASE**

June 29, 2011

## **Public Information Mail Scam**

Recent reports to the Bluffton Police Department indicate that a group or groups of scam artists are using the mail and other electronic means in an attempt to scam people out of money and property. The reports concern:

- Letters received in the mail, that request a person to cash a check at their bank and send a portion of the money in return.
- Job offers on Craig's List. These job offers request the individual to cash a check (for supplies) and mail the remainder of the check back to a P.O. Box number.
- Property that is being sold on websites such as Craig's List and Ebay. The person requests that the property be sent prior to the payment being received. The seller will ship the item and never get paid the money that was promised.

Residents should be wary of any of the following:

- 1- Unknown checks received in the mail.
- 2- Sudden employment opportunities that arrive in the mail or on email.
- 3- Requests to send a product for sale before confirming money in an account.

Anybody who feels they may be part of a scam are encouraged to contact the Bluffton Police Department 843-706-4550 to report the incident.